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DOMINICA SULPHUR LAKE. MR, ALBERTH, VERRILL'S TRAVELS HIS FINE COLLECTIONS.

He Describes His Visit to the Famous Sulphur Lake in the West Indies-In a Volcanoe's Crater-Its Shores Composed or Pure Sulphur, Geysers and Lava.

A party of friends of Mr. Albert H Verrill, son of Professor Verrill of Yale, called upon him a few nights ago at his home, 19 Carmel street, and were highly entertained by the young naturalist. Few people would believe that within our city limits stands a house so completely filled with beautiful specimens of foreign and domestic birds, animals and ancient pottery from all parts of the world, Mr. Verrill's home is indeed a museum in itself, and the descriptions with which the young traveler entertains his visitor of his rare specimens, where found etc., proves exceedingly interesting and highly instructive. Few young men have visited the remote parts of the earth, as he has done. Mr. Verrill has already spent ten years in travel in order to complete his education and equipment as a naturalist. During his visits abroad he has had not a few xciting experiences. Once in the Andes ne spent over two years in an Indian camp in order to fully understand their anguage and customs, and while there suffered for weeks with the deadly yelow fever and was cared for at the camp by the Indians, who manifested warm friendship for their white chief, as they called Mr. Verrill. He has expeditions through South America in the interest of different South American governments and was sent abroad by our own government to collect curiosities for exhibition at the world's fair. Mr. Verrill is also a painter of no mean ability. He has had on exhibition at various times in the Yale Art store some fine specimens tures. He had the contract for furnishing the pictures in the animal kingdictionary and to complete the contract occupied three years of his time. ing, and that magazine has occasional sketches from his pencil. While on a visit recently to the Island of Dominica in this city of the sulphur lake of

THE SULPRUR LAKE OF DOMINICA. Few of the tourists who visit the West Indies are aware that on the Island of Dominica is situated an active volcano, which, in some respects, is one of the most remarkable on our hemisphere. The island is about twenty-nine miles in length by seventeer in width and exceedingly mountainous the highest point being Morne Dia-bletin, 5,500 feet in height. On the Atantic or windward side of the island he mountains rise abruptly from the are broad plantations and swamps stretching back from the coast for several miles. Almost in the center of the island and on the road from Roseau, the capital, to Lassua, the Carib Indian settlement, is a small village called Laudat, which is peculiar, inasmuch, as all the inhabitants numbering about a Frenchman named Laudat and his negro wife, who settled there many years ago. Laudat s built on a broad plateau about 1,600 feet above the sea and commands a magnificent view. To the west and far below can be seen the Roseau river winding between hills and through rich valleys, some clothed with the dense tropical forest, others pale green with sugar and banana plantations. In the distance the streets and houses of Roseau glisten like silver in the tropic sunlight, while beyond sparkles the bright blue Caribbean sea, with here and there a tiny white speck of a sail or perhaps the slowly moving long black hull of the mail steamer. To the north and east rise steep forest clad mountains shutting off the view, while to the south are a long series of shapp topped ridges ending in a huge flat tooped cone some five miles away. from which on a clear day one may see a slender column of steam rising. This is the volcano, or as it is commonly termed by the natives the "Sulphur Formerly this mountain was covered like its companions with a forest of palms, gum trees and tree ferns, to its summit, while on its far ther side was a small hot water lake about an acre in extent, strongly impregnated with sulphur, from which it took its name. Now all is changed; for a thousand yards from the top the only vegetation is withered grass and small shrubs, while the lake is twice its original size and op one edge of the present crater. One rainy day in September, 1886, the people of the sland were startled by a series of unusually heavy earthquakes, lasting nearly an hour, followed by a dull explosion and a few moments later by a shower of fine ashes and sand, which was carried forty miles out to sea and even fell in Martinique, nearly fifty miles to the south. In Roseau the ashes fell to a depth of several inches, and had it not been for the heavy wind and rain the people might have shared the fate of the Pompelans. When the rain ceased and the people summoned up courage enough to investigate, they found that the entire top of the moun-

In the spring of 1890, while on ollecting trip in Dominica, I lived several months in Laudat; and while there made up my mind to visit the crater, although the inhabitants told me it was fearful climb and almost discouraged they had greatly exaggerated the diffi-culties and the trail was a well defined path through the most beautiful forest on the island. One pleasant iving, (and who by the way is a coal- but when the next day came and I still black negro), I started off. At first lived and asked why I was not dead

end the and plantains and after a mile or so entered the forest. For several miles the woods were very dark and damp branches hung with trailing vines and lianas, some delicate as threads, others huge, gnarled and twisted, thick as a man's thigh, but big and little, all overd with air-plants and sweet scented orchids, around which hovered beau-tiful humming birds. From the deep hadows an occasional Agouti would cuttle away at our approach or beside ome roaring mountain brook we would stop entranced and listen with bated breath to the loud, clear, soul-stirring whistle of the Siffleur Montagne, a note which for melancholy sweetness is no equalled. It seems to send a thrill of pleasure yet of sadness through your very soul, as from the depths of the silent tropic forest issues the long-drawn flute-like whistle, rising and falling, in a sweetness that seems not to belong to earth. Gradually the trees grew smaller, while the palms and tree-ferns were scattered among them Then the tree-ferns increased and soon were walking through the most remarkable and beautiful forest I have ever seen. The tree-ferns were not the puny things seen in hot houses, but veritable giants, their hairy trunks often forty feet in height and crowned with fronds twenty feet or more in through this unique forest and then emerging entered a jungle of tall gras and small shrubs, while all around us stood charred and blackened skeleton

tain by the lake had been blown off eaving a cruter four hundred feet deep and nearly six acres in extent. found, however, that as usual,

with no underbrush, the giant gum. Issued from the United States patent slik-cotton and mahogany trees rising office, Tuesday, February 5th, 1895 limb, their bases sending out huge but-tresses in all directions and their solicitors of patents 888 Chanel street of trees. We could now hear the rumbling of the volcano and could see the steam and vapor rising in clouds from the top of the crater a few hundred yards above us. A few moments more of stiff climbing and we stood on the edge of the crater and gazed upon a scene which might well have furnished the inspiration of Dante's Inferno. A huge circular plt 400 feet deep, its seamed and scarred edges burnt a bright red, while around its edges stood the gaunt skele tons of the trees. Streams of inky black water trickled down its sides, sending up jets of scalding, foul-smelling steam,

great credit, notably his marine plc- while from under foot came a dull rumbling roar. After viewing it a fev moments from the brink we descended into the crater. The sides were steep and slippery, and in many places ho enough to burn my shoes, so that de scent was by no means easy. The only vegetation was scattered plants of the peautiful gold and silver ferns which grew here and there in the crevices of the rocks. When we reached the bot he wrote a descriptive letter to a friend jar of the hidden forces, and in many places upon poking a stick into the Dominica, and as it will no doubt prove would spout up several feet. On the very interesting to our readers we give bottom and sides were numbers of small geysers, none of them spouting more than ten or fifteen feet, but constantly shifting from one place t another so that we felt rather uneasy for although a fifteen foot geyser i not very remarkable yet it would be decidedly uncomfortable, to say the least, for it to come suddenly up under one's feet. 'Running through the cente of the crater was a good sized stream o pubbling, bolling water, and following this down through a small gap in the eastern wall we came to the lake When we first saw it it resembled any other pond except that the shores were composed of sulphur and a mist was rising from it. Suddenly the center b gan to agitate and then to rise as though lifted from below, the water would rise fen or twelve feet, fall bæk, rise again, and then begin to bubble and boll, the bolling gradually extending until the whole lake was a mass of seething, roaring water. While stand ing on the shore Andre suggested that entertained me with an inte esting story of one of his friends who, while at the being slightly under the influence of native rum, lost his balance and pitched

thoroughly cooked before his compan long could pull him out. Old Andr seemed to take great pleasure in the re citation of this thrilling tale and grin-ned from ear to ear as he pointed out the exact spot and graphically describ-ed how the poor fellow's flesh fell from his bones. The lake apparently has no cutlet, but by following down the moun tain we discovered where it issued from the ground, and much to our surprise found it to be barely luke warm. Evi dently it is fed by a cold stream in its underground passage. The lake seem to be simply a group of intermittent geysers situated in a small depression so that during their subsidence a pool of water remains. The sensation of standing in this place is very strange there is a feeling of constant danger

and a wish to be on solid ground, while it the same time there is a strange fas cination about it which is almost im ossible to resist. It was several hours pefore I could make up my mind to cave and retrace my steps across the rater. Upon a close examination the rater is found to be composed mainly of fine ashes packed and baked almos as hard as brick, and strewn with blocks of lava and a kind of very hard, red pophery closely resembling that of Queretare Mex. in which opals occur but although we broke open a large umber of pieces we found no trace of the opal. There is also a considerable amount of a dull gray and exceedingly neavy ore, in which magnetic iron pre dominates. The rocks in many places are covered with a thick deposit of a

crystalline white powder, composed sulphur and something which tastes strongly of borax. The sides are verywhere streaked with iron, and in ome of the little streams a deposit of ron an inch in thickness has formed After filling our pockets with pieces of ava and porphery and taking up a number of gold ferns, we started to slimb out. About half way up the side shot a Cuban sparrow hawk, the only living thing we had seen near the place.

What he was doing in that desolate home I stopped at a beautiful mountain stream to bathe my face and hands and was very much amused to see the look of consternation on Andre's face. The natives all believe that it is sure death to drink, eat or bathe while walking, or in the least bit heated, and forest on the island. One pleasant when I did so would mournfully shake March morning in company with old their heads, look lugubrious and tell Andre Laudat, at whose house I was me I would die before the next day,

our path led through pleasant pastures they wou'd not be in the least bit phased and gardens, then began to ascend the but would calmly shrug their shoulder optilis through plantations of bananas and remark that, "God loves you, yes!"

List of Patents Issued from the United States patent often for a hundred feet without a for the state of Connectiout, furnished solicitors of patents, 868 Chapel street, New Haven, Conn.:

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egulator for steam engines. Same, assignor one half to R. R. Symon, London, gas a vapor burner. Same, gas or vapor burner for heating ourposes H. K. Jones, Hartford, assignor to

Russell & Erwin company, New Britain, manufacture of screw blanks G. Hendrick, assignor to J. Hendrick,

Waterbury, dress stay.
J. P. Lavingne, New Haven, assignor Lavigne & Scott, monkey wrench, two patents.
C. Sonneson, Torrington, device for re

noving skins from oranges, etc.
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